

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 150, 157, 159, 176, 178, 181 and 189. Please Cancel claims 156, 158, 160, 177, 186 through 188, and 190. Please add new claim 206. The new claim adds no new subject matter and is fully supported by the application, including the specification, figures, and claims as originally filed. Thus, claims 150 through 155, 157, 159, 161 through 176, 178 through 185, 189, and 191 through 206 (49 total claims) are pending upon entry of this amendment.

Claims 1-149 (Canceled)

Claim 150 (Currently Amended): A recombinant cell, comprising:

a first nucleic acid molecule comprising:

a promoter or enhancer operable for a nucleic acid molecule encoding CYP3A4, and

a reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell,

wherein said promoter or enhancer is operably linked to said reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell;

further wherein said promoter or enhancer is native to said CYP3A4; and

a second nucleic acid comprising:

a nucleic acid molecule encoding CYP3A4, and

a nucleic acid molecule encoding PXR, wherein when said PXR is bound with, associated with or activated by a compound that induces the expression of said CYP3A4, said PXR can operably bind with, associate with or activate said promoter or enhancer resulting in the expression of said reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell;

~~wherein said first nucleic acid molecule, said second nucleic acid molecule, or both are stably transfected into said recombinant cell;~~
wherein said recombinant cell is an isolated cell or a cultured cell; and
wherein when said cell is contacted with said compound, said reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell is expressed.

Claim 151 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said promoter or enhancer comprises PXRE.

Claim 152 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said promoter or enhancer comprises XREM.

Claim 153 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said promoter or enhancer comprises PXRE and XREM.

Claim 154 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said reporter gene encodes an enzyme.

Claim 155 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said reporter gene encodes a detectable protein.

Claim 156 (Cancelled)

Claim 157 (Currently Amended) The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said ~~first~~ second nucleic acid molecule is ~~within the chromosome of~~ stably transfected into said recombinant cell.

Claim 158 (Cancelled)

Claim 159 (Currently Amended): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said ~~reporter gene is inserted into~~ enhancer or promoter is endogenous to the chromosome of said cell.

Claim 160 (Cancelled)

Claim 161 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said PXR forms a complex with or is indirectly activated by a drug and directly or indirectly produces transcriptional activation of said nucleic acid molecule encoding CYP3A4.

Claim 162 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said PXR forms a complex with or is indirectly activated by a chemical and directly or indirectly produces transcriptional activation of said nucleic acid molecule encoding CYP3A4.

Claim 163 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said PXR forms a complex with or is indirectly activated by a metabolite and directly or indirectly produces transcriptional activation of said nucleic acid molecule encoding CYP3A4.

Claim 164 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is present in an extrachromosomal element.

Claim 165 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is present within the chromosome of said cell.

Claim 166 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is endogenous to the chromosome of said cell.

Claim 167 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is a mammalian cell.

Claim 168 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is an isolated cell.

Claim 169 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is a cultured cell.

Claim 170 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is a human cell.

Claim 171 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is a cell line.

Claim 172 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is from liver tissue.

Claim 173 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is from gastrointestinal tract tissue.

Claim 174 (Previously Presented): The recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is from lung tissue.

Claim 175 (Currently Amended): The [[c]] recombinant cell of claim 150, wherein said cell is from kidney tissue.

Claim 176 (Currently Amended): A method for evaluating compounds for the property of inducing the expression of a gene encoding a protein involved in drug metabolism, comprising;
providing a test compound;
contacting a test compound with a recombinant cell comprising:
 a first nucleic acid molecule comprising:
 a promoter or enhancer operable for a nucleic acid molecule encoding CYP3A4, and
 a reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell, wherein said CYP3A4 is operably linked to said reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell, further wherein said promoter or enhancer is native to said CYP3A4, and
 a second nucleic acid comprising:
 a nucleic acid molecule encoding CYP3A4, and
 a nucleic acid molecule encoding PXR, wherein when said PXR is bound with, associated with or activated by a compound that induces the expression of said CYP3A4, said PXR can operably bind with, associate with or activate said promoter or enhancer resulting in the expression of said reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell;
wherein said recombinant cell is an isolated cell or a cultured cell;
wherein when said recombinant cell is contacted with said test compound, said reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell is expressed; and
detecting the expression of said reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell;
wherein expression of said reporter gene endogenous to the chromosome of said cell is indicative that said test compound altered the expression of a gene encoding CYP3A4.

Claim 177 (Cancelled)

Claim 178 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 176, wherein said ~~first~~ second nucleic acid molecule is stably transfected ~~trasfected~~ into said recombinant cell.

Claim 179 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said first nucleic acid molecule and said second nucleic acid molecule are stably transfected into said recombinant cell.

Claim 180 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said method is a high throughput method.

Claim 181 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 176, wherein said promoter or enhancer ~~enhancer~~ comprises PXRE.

Claim 182 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said promoter or enhancer comprises XREM.

Claim 183 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said promoter or enhancer comprises PXRE and XREM.

Claim 184 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said reporter gene encodes an enzyme.

Claim 185 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said reporter gene encodes a detectable protein.

Claim 186 (Cancelled)

Claim 187 (Cancelled)

Claim 188 (Cancelled)

Claim 189 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 176, wherein said enhancer or promoter is endogenous to ~~reporter gene is inserted into~~ the chromosome of said cell.

Claim 190 (Cancelled)

Claim 191 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said PXR forms a complex with or is indirectly activated by a drug and directly or indirectly produces transcriptional activation of a gene encoding CYP3A4.

Claim 192 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said PXR forms a complex with or is indirectly activated by a chemical and directly or indirectly produces transcriptional activation of a gene encoding CYP3A4.

Claim 193 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said PXR forms a complex with or is indirectly activated by a metabolite and directly or indirectly produces transcriptional activation of CYP3A4.

Claim 194 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is present in an extrachromosomal element.

Claim 195 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is present within the chromosome of said recombinant cell.

Claim 196 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is endogenous to the chromosome of said recombinant cell.

Claim 197 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is a mammalian cell.

Claim 198 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is an isolated cell.

Claim 199 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is a cultured cell.

Claim 200 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is a human cell.

Claim 201 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is a cell line.

Claim 202 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is from liver tissue.

Claim 203 (Previously Presented): The cell of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is from gastrointestinal tract tissue.

Claim 204 (Previously Presented): The cell of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is from lung tissue.

Claim 205 (Previously Presented): The cell of claim 176, wherein said recombinant cell is from kidney tissue.

Claim 206 (New): The Method of claim 176, wherein said second nucleic acid molecule is stably transfected into said recombinant cell.